

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 222158
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:DGHARTER/FMLC
APPROVED BY EA:ROAKLEY
EA/VLC:SRLYNE
EUR/NE:RLFUNSETH (SUBS.)
TREAS:SSOMMERFIELD (SUBS.)
EB/ITP/EWT:PBLAKEBURN (SUBS.)
EA/EP:RWARNE (SUBS.)
S/S-O: TGMARTIN

-----057546 010244Z /64

R 312331Z AUG 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T STATE 222158

NODIS
FOR JOHNSTONE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, US, VM

SUBJECT: MONTGOMERY CODEL FOLLOW-UP

1. AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE VIETNAMESE LIAISON OFFICER AND CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

BEGIN MESSAGE: THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATES COURTESY AND HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO CODEL MONTGOMERY AND OPPORTUNITY CODEL HAD TO MEET WITH HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR POSITIVE GESTURE OF RETURNING ELEVEN SETS OF REMAINS TO CONGRESSMEN AND FOR EXPRESSION OF CONTINUED ATTENTION TO ISSUE OF SEPARATED FAMILIES AND RELEASE
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OF AMERICAN CITIZENS TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S STAFF DELEGATION. WE HAVE HAD USEFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH BOTH DELEGATIONS UPON THEIR RETURN IN WHICH THEY CONVEYED TO US THE SENSE OF THEIR MEETINGS IN VIETNAM. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO THE VISIT IN OCTOBER OF DR. NGUYEN VAN HIEU, DIRECTOR OF VIETNAM'S INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS, AND ARE HELPING TO DEVELOP A SCHEDULE TO MAKE HIS VISIT HERE MEANINGFUL; WE HOPE PRI-

VATE EXCHANGES SUCH AS HIEU'S WILL INCREASE IN FUTURE. SUCH ACTIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN CREATING OVERALL FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH PROGRESS ON OTHER ISSUES CAN BE MADE.

AS VIETNAMESE ARE AWARE, CURRENT U.S. TRADE EMBARGO ON VIETNAM AND TEN OTHER COUNTRIES ISSCHEDULED FOR EXTENSION SHORTLY. EXTENSION OF EMBARGO REFLECTS BASIC U.S. POSITION THAT TRADE RELATIONS CONSTITUTE PART OF REGULAR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND SIMPLY REPRESENTS CONTINUATION OF PAST POLICY. EXTENSION SHOULD NOT BE PERCEIVED AS PUNITIVE OR POLITICAL ACT; U.S. STANDS READY, AS WE HAVE STATED CONSISTENTLY SINCE MAY 1977, TO DROP TRADE EMBARGO ONCE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED AND EMBASSIES ARE OPENED IN OUR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING WITH NGUYEN CO THACH IN NEW YORK; WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE VIETNAMESE UN MISSION SHORTLY TO DISCUSS MODALITIES. END MESSAGE.

2. THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED ACCORDING TO THE GUIDANCE PROVIDED ONLY ON AN IF ASKED BASIS:

ADB LOANS: VIETNAMESE DEMARCHE TO OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN MANILA QUESTIONED U.S. MOTIVATION FOR DELAY OF THREE
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PENDING ADB LOAN CASES. YOU SHOULD RESPOND THAT OUR REQUEST WAS DESIGNED TO ENABLE TECHNICAL DETAILS TO BE EXPLORED MORE FULLY AND TO MAKE SURE THAT THE LOANS WERE ACCURATELY PRESENTED. WE DO NOT FORESEE ANY INORDINATE DELAYS IN THE LOANS BEING BROUGHT BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE EXPLANATION GIVEN BY OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THAT ADB PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO MOVE AHEAD WITH A TECHNICAL MISSION, IRRESPECTIVE OF DELAYED CONSIDERATION OF THE LOANS, SHOULD REASSURE HANOI OFFICIALS.

TREASURY ACTION AGAINST SWEDISH BANK: (FOR EMBASSY BACKGROUND ONLY: TREASURY HAS REASONABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE A SWEDISH BANK HAS ENGAGED IN A SERIES OF U.S. DOLLAR TRANSACTIONS WITH U.S. BANKS IN WHICH THERE IS, OR HAS BEEN SINCE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE REGULATIONS (APRIL 30, 1975 A DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST OF VIETNAM OR NATIONALS THEREOF. UNDER U.S. LAW, ALL SUCH TRANSACTIONS ARE PROHIBITED. ACCORDINGLY, TREASURY HAS TAKEN BLOCKING ACTION AGAINST THE U.S. ACCOUNTS OF THE SWEDISH BANK.)

IF ASKED ABOUT THIS ISSUE YOU SHOULD STATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOTES THAT THIS ACTION IS A ROUTINE ENFORCE-

MENT OF EXISTING U.S. LAW APPLICABLE TO U.S. DOLLAR TRANS-
ACTIONS WITH U.S. BANKS. THIS ACTION IS NOT MOTIVATED BY
POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. BLOCKING ACTIONS OF THIS TYPE
HAVE OCCURRED FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE PAST WHEN US LAWS
AND REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN VIOLATED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, VISITS, CODELS, MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, PRISONERS RELEASE, INTERMENTS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE222158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DGHARTER/FMLC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840140-2468
Format: TEL
From: STATE EA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978082/aaaaabil.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 192ff25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1609135
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MONTGOMERY CODEL FOLLOW-UP
TAGS: PDIP, PINS, PINT, US, VM, FR, (MONTGOMERY, G V)
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/192ff25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014